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b. Applicant(s)	g. Disclaimer	I. Print Fig.	q. PTOL-85b		
c. Continuing Data	h. Microfiche Appendix	m. Searched Column	r. Abstract		
d. PCT	i. Title	n. PTO-270/328	s. Sheets/Figs		
e. Domestic Priority	j. Claims Allowed	o. PTO-892	t. Other		

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A method and apparatus for surface measurement using the shadow moire effect with the Talbot effect. The apparatus includes a specimen mount to receive a specimen having a surface to be measured, and a reference grating mounted adjacent to the specimen mount so as to be substantially parallel to a mean surface plane of the specimen. The reference grating is mounted in such a manner that the distance between the reference grating and the mean surface plane of the specimen can be adjusted to a Talbot distance δT . The apparatus also includes a light source to illuminate the specimen through the grating and a detector positioned to detect the moire fringes produced by the grating due to variation of the surface of the specimen.